

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 /116 W
-----088270 021405Z /45

P R 021300Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6348
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03814

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, USEEC, BQG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS TO
BERLIN

REFS: (A) BONN 3597 (NOTAL)
(B) BONN 3435

SUMMARY: THE BONN GROUP HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT JENKINS
WILL SPEAK TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN BERLIN, PRESUM-
ABLY NOT ABOUT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DIRECT ELECTIONS (REF
B). THE FREFTH HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT DEMARCHES BE MADE
TO THE BERLIN SENAT AND TO JENKINS CABINET ASKING THAT
THE ALLIES BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF SUCH VISITS AND
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ADVISING CAUTION IN WHAT JENKINS DOES AND SAYS IN BERLIN.
WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT DEMARCHES BY ALL THREE ALLIES ARE
NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE BUT CONSIDER THAT A LOW-KEY
APPROACH TO THE SENAT, PREFERABLY BY THE FRENCH ALONE,
COULD BE USEFUL. LIKewise, JENKINS MIGHT BE ALERTED IN
A LOW-KEY MANNER TO THE SOVIET SENSITIVITIES ABOUT
BERLIN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EC AND TO THE POSSIBLE

EMBARRASSMENT WHICH COULD RESULT FROM ANY REMARKS HE MIGHT MAKE ABOUT DIRECT ELECTIONS WHILE IN BERLIN.
ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARAGRAPH 8. END SUMMARY

1. THE FRENCH REP (RICHARD) INQUIRED ABOUT FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THE SUBJECT AT THE MARCH 1 BONN GROUP MEETING. THE FRG REP (VON BRAUNMUEHL) SAID THAT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT JENKINS WILL DELIVER A SPEECH AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (INDUSTRIE UND HANDELS-KAMMER) IN BERLIN. THE SUBJECT IS NOT KNOWN BUT IT WILL PRESUMABLY NOT BE ABOUT DIRECT ELECTIONS.

2. ON INSTRUCTIONS, RICHARD SAID THAT THE FRENCH HAVE NO OBJECTION TO JENKINS' VISIT, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE WAS INVITED BY STOBBE. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED HAVING BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING. VON BRAUNMUEHL INTERJECTED THAT IF THE REMARKS WERE BEING DIRECTED AT THE FRG (MEICHSNER, THE BERLIN REPRESENTATIVE, WAS NOT AT THE BONN GROUP MEETING), THIS WAS INAPPROPRIATE SINCE THE FRG DID NOT INVITE HIM. HE SAID THAT THE FRG, THROUGH ITS MISSION IN BRUSSELS, TRIES TO BE HELPFUL IN PROVIDING ADVANCE NOTICE OF SUCH MATTERS BUT REMINDED RICHARD THAT THE FRENCH AND BRITISH ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE EC.

3. RICHARD CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT THE FRENCH PROPOSED
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TO MAKE CLEAR IN BRUSSELS TO JENKINS' CABINET AND IN BERLIN TO THE SENAT THAT THE SENSITIVITY OF BERLIN'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE EC SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. HE RECALLED BK/L(57)44 WHICH APPROVED THE EXTENSION OF THE EC TREATIES TO BERLIN INSOFAR AS COMPATIBLE WITH ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. HE SAID THAT THIS IMPLIES A CERTAIN NEED FOR CAUTION IN SPEECHES AND OTHER EC ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN AS WELL AS THE COMING ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND BERLIN'S TIES TO THE EC.

4. SINCE THE FRENCH ARE IN THE CHAIR IN BERLIN THIS MONTH, THE US REP RAISED THE QUESTION WHETHER THE FRENCH WOULD BE SPEAKING ONLY ON THEIR OWN BEHALF OR FOR ALL THREE ALLIES. IF THE LATTER, IT WOULD APPEAR NECESSARY FOR THE FRENCH TO PUT FORTH A CONCRETE PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION. RICHARD REPLIED THAT THE FRENCH WOULD PREFER THAT IT BE DONE BY (OR ON BEHALF OF) ALL THREE ALLIES IN BERLIN AND BY THE UK AND FRANCE IN BRUSSELS. THE FRENCH WOULD LIKE TO SAY IN BRUSSELS THAT THE DEMARCHE HAD BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE FRG AND THAT THE US, AS THE THIRD POWER WITH RESPONSIBILITIES IN BERLIN, SUPPORTS THE FRANCO-BRITISH DEMARCHE. THE US REP

QUESTIONED WHETHER SUCH A FORMAL DEMARCHE WAS JUSTIFIED
IN THIS CASE. GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE IS A REASONABLE
MAN AND SHARES THE COMMON DESIRE TO PREVENT DIFFICULTIES

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 03814

IN BERLIN. IF THE FRENCH ALONE WERE TO TALK WITH THE
SENAT IN A LOW-KEY MANNER, THE PRACTICAL RESULT WOULD
PRESUMABLY BE THAT COORDINATION WITH THE ALLIES ON SUCH
MATTERS AS INVITING HIGH-LEVEL EC VISITORS TO BERLIN
WOULD IMPROVE.

5. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THE FRG WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THE
FRENCH SUGGESTION. IF IT WERE INVITED TO JOIN A
DEMARCHE IN BRUSSELS IT WOULD PRESUMABLY AGREE BUT
WOULD NOT SEEK TO INVOLVE ITSELF IF NOT INVITED.

6. SINCE THE UK REP (EYERS) IS AWAITING LONDON'S VIEWS
ON THE JENKINS VISIT, IT WAS AGREED TO DEFER DISCUSSION
OF POSSIBLE DEMARCHES UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

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7. COMMENT: SINCE THE PROPOSED JENKINS VISIT TO BRUSSELS HAS THUS FAR AROUSED NO OPPOSITION AND SINCE HE PRESUMABLY WILL NOT BE SPEAKING (AS WE EARLIER FEARED) ON THE SUBJECT OF DIRECT ELECTIONS, THE ONLY PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE THAT THERE WAS NO ADVANCE NOTICE TO THE ALLIES. WHILE WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE SUCH ADVANCE NOTICE, IT DOES NOT APPEAR TO US THAT FULL-SCALE DEMARCHES ARE REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THIS RESULT. AT THE SAME TIME, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO ALERT JENKINS (IF HE IS NOT ALREADY AWARE OF THIS) OF THE SOVIET SENSITIVITIES ABOUT BERLIN AND THE EC AND TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE OR OTHER PUBLIC FORUM IN BERLIN, ANY REMARKS HE MIGHT MAKE ON DIRECT ELECTIONS COULD PROVE EMBARRASSING TO HIM AND TO US.

8. SINCE WE EXPECT THIS SUBJECT TO BE RAISED IN THE BONN GROUP AT THE NEXT MEETING (NOW SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 8), IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THE VIEWS OF USBER AND USEC AS WELL AS THE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER APPROACHES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE SENAT AND JENKINS RESPECTIVELY AND, IF SO, HOW THEY SHOULD BE MADE.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARAGRAPH 8.
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